LEAP WIRELESS INTERNATIONAL, INC.
10307 Pacific Center Court
San Diego, CA 92121

November 9, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas, Commissions Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioners,

The following information relates to Public Notice DA 00-2099, released September 14, 2000, titled WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU PROVIDES GUIDANCE ON CARRIER REPORTS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF WIRELESS E9-1-1 PHASE II AUTOMATIC LOCATION IDENTIFICATION, CC DOCKET 94-102.

Carrier Identifying Information

This response is submitted on behalf of Leap Wireless International, Inc., TRS number 819360 ("Leap"). Leap is a low cost wireless service provider that uses spectrum in the 1900-megahertz range with CDMA technology. As of this filing, Leap provides wireless service to three (3) markets in Tennessee, but intends to have approximately 32 additional markets deployed by the end of 2001. Currently Leap has deployed networks using Lucent infrastructure but has signed agreements and intends to also deploy CDMA networks with equipment provided by both Nortel and Ericsson.

Contact Information

Information for this notice is provided by Chris Demange, Director-New Technology for Leap, located at 10307 Pacific Center Court, San Diego, CA 92121. Chris can be reached by phone at 877-977-5327, by fax at 858-882-6080 or by email at Cdemange@leapwireless.com.

E911 Phase II Location Technology Information

Leap expects to deploy a handset-based solution for its wireless Phase II location technology in its Lucent, Nortel and Ericsson markets. Leap has evaluated both handset and network based solutions for Phase II. Due to the inability of Leap to identify reliable and accurate network based solutions for CDMA technology, Leap expects to utilize a handset-based solution throughout Leap' entire coverage area.

Testing and Verification

As of this date, Leap has not performed any testing or verification of a handset based location product. Once vendor selection has been completed a testing and verification plan will be developed and Leap will update this filing and notify the FCC according to the procedures defined in the FCC Public Notice DA 00-2099 and the Report and Order 94-102.

Implementation Details and Schedule

There are four components that Leap will need to implement to provide a handset based solution; GPS enabled handsets, Position Determination Equipment (PDE), Mobile Position Center (MPC) and Call Routing Database (CRDB).

The choice of a handset-based technology will require the introduction and replacement of existing wireless handsets with GPS capable devices. This technology will be deployed once these GPS capable devices become commercially available. Leap has notified its current handset vendors of its intention to file a handset based E-911 Phase II solution. Leap intends to award future handset purchases based in part on vendors' ability to meet this requirement at a commercially acceptable price.

As Leap will be utilizing three different infrastructure providers by the time this mandate is in place, Leap may need to pursue three different solutions for the Position Determination Equipment. Leap has had preliminary discussions with all three of its infrastructure vendors about the PDE equipment that will be offered. None of these vendors currently have a commercial product available.

To meet the MPC and CRDB requirement for this solution, Leap intends to expand its existing Phase I relationship with Xypoint. Xypoint will interface to the PSAP via a non-call path associated signaling (NCAS) solution. Xypoint will provide the underlining technology, which will allow for interconnection through their Mobile Positioning Center (MPC) to Leap Wireless' Position Determination Equipment (PDE). In addition, Xypoint will also serve as the Call Routing DataBase (CRDB), which allows for call delivery to the PSAP based on the information provided by the PDE.

Leap is in receipt of one Phase II request from a county that it currently does not serve but expects to serve in the future. It should be understood that Leap intends to comply with the FCC's Report and Order 94-102 within its existing and future markets.

PSAP Interface

If the 9-1-1 PSAP is currently enhanced and wireless Phase I capable, Leap Wireless does not anticipate any requirement for software or hardware upgrades to the existing 9-1-1 network or PSAP equipment. Additional hardware and software upgrades may be required if the PSAP is not Phase I enabled.

Existing Handset

It should be noted, due to the fact that Leap has just recently begun the "roll out" of wireless markets, the need to replace existing handsets will be limited to only the areas where deployment occurs prior to the requirements for handset based technology as it relates to enhanced wireless 9-1-1 services. Leap has notified its existing handset vendors of its intent to file a handset based solution and stated its intent to make future purchase decisions based upon the vendors' ability to deliver compliant product. Although these communications have not resulted in market availability of the equipment, Leap will continue to express its expectations that these manufacturers meet the required timelines to allow compliance with Report and Order 94-102.

Location of Non-Compatible Handset

Leap currently routes and will continue to route all 911 calls it receives to the appropriate PSAP. This service is provided regardless of whether the phone is a Leap subscriber, a competitor's subscriber, a de-activated customer, or an un-initialized handset. Regardless, it is important to note that Leap has not entered into roaming agreements with other wireless carriers. Leap is also a single band, PCS provider that has chosen CDMA technology. Both of these factors make it unlikely that a Leap network will become the default network for anyone other than its customers. The few wireless 9-1-1 callers who use non-

compatible handsets will be located using Phase I cell site and sector proximity information provided by Xypoint.

Other Information

It should be understood that, public safety, including 9-1-1 services, is of the highest priority to Leap and we take the FCC Report and Order seriously. However, Leap has been unable to identify accurate and reliable solutions outside of handset-based technologies that are compatible with its CDMA infrastructure. As you are aware, handset based technologies are not currently commercially available. Although Leap will continue to place pressure on our equipment manufacturers, there is a high level of concern about the availability of these devices to meet the currently defined FCC timeline requirements. In addition, Leap has some concerns about the costs of the additional location elements within the handset that could drive up the price of the equipment and thus have a negative effect on the ability of low and middle-income households to afford wireless services. This is of particular concern to Leap, because a strong component of our business model is providing basic wireless telephone service that is affordable to the broadest possible segments including the underserved population.

Sincerely,

Christopher Demange
Director, New Technology